

St. Louis Park Public Schools

Curriculum & Instruction Program Review Process

District Announces Curriculum Changes Coming Fall 2021 in Math, Gifted/Talented Programming, and World Languages and Cultures

St. Louis Park Public Schools uses a three-year review cycle. In this process, teacher leaders measure previous success and determine next steps to achieve racial equity transformation in alignment with the strategic plan.

Curriculum & Instruction Program Development Phases

The 2020-21 school year marks Year 3 in the first evaluation cycle of curriculum and instruction programs.

PHASE I: LOOKING INWARD

- Teacher Self-Reflection
- Examine Disaggregated Data
- Hear and Reflect Upon Students Voice
- Unpack Standards
- Intersection of Various District Programs
- Engage in Courageous Conversation

PHASE II: LOOKING AROUND

- Research and/or Visit Regional, National, and International Exemplars
- Engage Scholars of Culturally Relevant Pedagogy, Content Specific Pedagogy and Technology Enrichment
- Establish Criteria for Adopting New Materials (Pilot Curriculum or Professional Development)
- Engage in Courageous Conversation

PHASE III: LOOKING OUTWARD

- Develop Content Area and Departmental Belief Statements
- Adopt New Curriculum with Fidelity or Engage in Curriculum Writing
- Establish Collaborative Team and Site Professional Development Plans
- Develop 3, 5, and 8 year benchmarks
- Engage in Courageous Conversation

A Sampling of Scholars that Influenced our Curriculum and Instructional Changes



Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings
*Culturally Relevant Pedagogy:
Asking a Different Question*



Dr. Jo Boaler
*Mathematical Mindsets:
Unleashing Students' Potential
Through Creative Math,
Inspiring Messages and
Innovative Teaching*



Dr. Yvette Jackson
*The Pedagogy of Confidence:
Inspiring High Intellectual
Performance in Urban Schools*



Paul Sandrock
*The Essentials of World
Languages, Grades K-12*

To learn more about the Curriculum & Instruction Program Review or to join the District Instructional Programs Advisory Council (DIPAC) and become actively involved in the process, contact:

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Curriculum & Instructional Development: MATH, TALENT DEVELOPMENT & WORLD LANGUAGES

EARLY LEARNING-GRADE 5

CONTENT AREA	BELIEFS	ACTIONS/CHANGES
MATH	The belief in one's own teaching and in the ability of one's students to learn will allow all students to be brilliant and confident mathematicians.	Implement a new math instructional framework and curriculum, E-5 at all sites, that will serve all students. Teachers will participate in professional development to learn about the process of teaching mathematics as well as offering a new curriculum.
GIFTED/TALENTED	All students benefit from an education that provides strengths based, culturally relevant enrichment rather than one that intervenes based on deficits and provides remediation. Each student has untapped brilliance that can be fostered through gifted education.	Add two Talent Development Teachers at each elementary school site to provide Gifted and Talented programs for each K-5 student. Replace all pull-out remedial math and reading intervention programs with research-based enrichment programs, co-teaching, and coaching. Have a literacy specialist at each site provide culturally relevant coaching and support for K-3 teachers, students, and classrooms.
WORLD LANGUAGES & CULTURES	Learning multiple languages is an essential part of an elementary school program.	World Languages and Cultures specialist will push into classroom to ensure more content based bilingual instruction and education for all.

GRADES 6-12

CONTENT AREA	BELIEFS	ACTIONS/CHANGES
MATH	All students can succeed in and should have access to college level courses as an essential path to career and college readiness.	Integrate all math courses in grades 6-10 by Fall of 2022 by introducing a new instructional framework. Support each student to succeed in at least one college level math course in a pathway of their choice.
GIFTED/TALENTED	Each student has untapped brilliance that can be fostered through gifted education. Racially integrated classrooms align with our district mission and help students of all backgrounds gain valuable perspectives and experiences from their peers.	All students will have the choice to engage in enrichment opportunities of interest to deepen their learning on summative assessments in language arts, social studies, science, and math. Support each student to be successful in one Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or concurrent college course of their choice before graduation. Discontinue all pull-out remedial math and reading intervention programs 6-12, by Fall of 2022 or sooner.
WORLD LANGUAGES & CULTURES	Language acquisition is an essential choice for all students in a secondary school program.	Commit to have each World Language and Cultures classroom teaching to a 90% Target Language rate with National standards through a 6-12 scope and sequence. Provide each St. Louis Park student with an opportunity to graduate with a bilingual seal.

Learning Transformations for Racial Equity

1:1 Chromebook Initiative Launches Fall 2021

Students in Grades 6-12 will receive a District Chromebook for their use in digital learning in the classroom and at home beginning Fall 2021. And each elementary classroom Grades K-2 will access classroom sets of i-Pads. Students in Grades 3-5 will have increased access by Spring 2022.

K-5 Talent Development Expands Gifted/Talented Programming

All students in grades K-5 will receive Gifted and Talented programming multiple times per week with intensive Talent Development in areas including, but not limited to Science, Technology, Education and Human Development, the Arts, and Math.

Keystone & SOAR to Increase Student Leadership Development for Racial Equity

The Middle School Keystone class and High School Students Organized Against Racism (SOAR) program will use critical thinking and communication to engage in deep conversations about racial injustice in society, and take action to spark change.

High Expectations for All Students

All students will have access to Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or concurrent college courses during high school to sample higher education and help determine their interests.

Career & College Readiness for Future Success

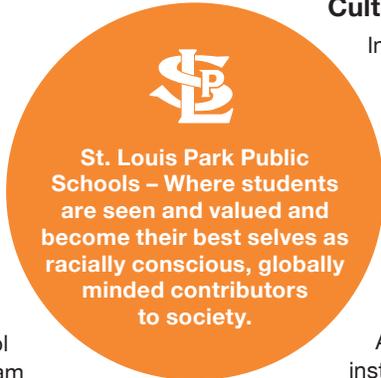
Our career and college readiness pathways give students the opportunity to explore their strengths and focus on their passions. Starting Fall 2021, this includes a “Grow Your Own Teachers” program where high school students interested in the teaching profession receive guidance and assistance in pursuing their degree through a concurrent enrollment college course.

Culturally-Relevant Teaching

In all subject areas and all grade levels of our classes, students will experience culturally-relevant teaching where they have high expectations to achieve academic success, opportunities to develop their own racial and cultural competence, and develop a critical, socio-political consciousness that will have them be globally conscious leaders upon graduation from our school system.

Language Acquisition

All elementary students will receive Spanish instruction from their specialists in their homeroom classrooms to strengthen bilingual content-based instruction. At the secondary level, students will have access to a wide variety of languages as we pursue the expansion of one or more of the following languages: Arabic, Ojibwe, Mandarin, or Somali. Students at all levels will have access to the high standards derived from the American Council of Teaching Foreign Languages.



Curriculum & Instruction Program Development Timeline

Phase	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
I	■	✦	☆	▲	✳	●	✳	✳		
II		■	✦	☆	▲	✳	●	✳	✳	
III			■	✦	☆	▲	✳	●	✳	✳

Program Key

- = Math, Gifted/Talented, and World Languages
- ✦ = Science, Language Arts & Literacy, and Multilingual Learning
- ☆ = Social Studies, Phy Ed/Health, and Progress Reporting
- ▲ = Music, Career/Tech Ed, and Student Services
- ✳ = Art, Summer School, and Special Education
- = Media, Digital Learning, and Immersion
- ✳ = BARR, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate
- ✳ = Math, Talent Development, and World Languages & Cultures